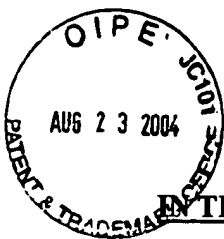


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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Yasuaki Tsuchiya, et al.

Examiner: Maria F. Guerrero

Serial No.: 09/737,397

Art Unit: 2822

Filed: December 15, 2000

Docket: 14162

For: PROCESS FOR FORMING A METAL
INTERCONNECT

Dated: August 19, 2004

Confirmation No. 8837

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop AF
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated May 19, 2004, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.116, Applicants respectfully submit the following Response after final rejection.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, M.S. AF, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 19, 2004.

Dated: August 19, 2004


Richard J. Danyko

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